Pericelli, Martinez lead Alongi Memorial international races

Dearborn, Michigan, Sept. 27—Italy's Giovanni Pericelli cruised to an easy win in the 14th edition of the Alongi Memorial 20 Km walk today with a sparkling 1:23:46 effort. He led Mexico's Alberto Cruz by nearly a minute, with Jonathan Matthews leading the U.S. contingent in third with an impressive 1:25:40.

In the women's 10 Km, Mexico's Francisca Martinez just hung on to beat Victoria Herazo in 46:19. Herazo was just 5 seconds back and nearly 40 seconds ahead of third-place Sara Standley, who walked a personal best.

In other races, Dave McGovern won the 10 Km, Nick Bdera the Master's 10, Jack Bray the age 50-59, Max Green the 60 and over 10 (with Bray winning the race between these two rivals, Ami Connell the women's 5, Joann Nedelco the women's masters 5, and Lois Dicker the women's 50-59 5.

In an accompanying U.S.-Canada junior match, the U.S. men, led by Sean Albert, and the U.S. women, led by Lisa Chumbley, won. Results:


Above: The U.S. Junior Men's team in action at Brockville, Ontario. From front to back: Will Van Axen, James Spahr, Sean Linehan, and Yariv Pomeranz. (Steve Vailones photos.)

Below: Nick Bdera enroute to his National 40 Km win. (Photo courtesy of Elliott Denman.)

Mexicans dominate Pan-American Cup

Guatemala City, October 17—Taking 1-2-3 in both men's races and 1-2-4 in the women's race, the Mexicans were completely dominant in the 1992 Pan-American Cup competition. Only Victoria Herazo, with a third place finish in the women's 10 Km, was able to stop a complete sweep by the Mexicans. But on this warm and very humid day, Vicky was unable to challenge Mexico's Francisca Martinez as she had 3 weeks earlier in Dearborn. She stayed with Martinez and Maria Colin past the 4 Km mark, but then had to give ground grudgingly through the rest of the race. Herazo’s finish led the U.S. team to a second place finish, ahead of Canada who did not have their best athletes at the meet.
In the men's 20 Km, Bernardo Segura took command early and had better than a minute on the field by the time they reached 5 Km. His teammate, Daniel Garcia, was able to cut into the lead between 10 and 15 km, but then faded at the end, as Segura won by nearly a minute-and-a-half in 1:24:09. Alberto Cruz appeared to have an easy third at the 15 Km mark, but was struggling at the finish to hold off Guatemala's Julio Martinez and our own Jonathan Matthews. Matthews outpaced Mexico's Joel Sanchez over the final 5 Km and was closing on Cruz and Martinez, but ran out of course. His final 5 km was his fastest of the race. He was the only U.S. walker in either of the men's races to walk up to his potential in the muddy conditions, picking up 32 seconds on Cruz via-a-vis the Dearborn race. As a result of the subpar performances, a surprising Guatamalan team took second ahead of the U.S. team competition.

In the 50 km, the Mexican trio of Sanchez, Rodriguez, and Mercenario pulled away from Guatamala's Julio Urias after 20 Km. They walked together for the next 10 Km, where Sanchez started to drop away. But, after dropping a full minute behind, Sanchez got back in touch over the last 5 Km, when the other two slowed considerably, and they crossed the line together in 4:06:21, quite pedestrian for this trio. Andrzej Chylinski was the first U.S. finisher (seventh). He was with Guatemala's Nelson Funes pulling away from Baarrett for fifth. Chylinski, actually dropped better than a minute behind Dave Marchese at 45 km after leading him more than 5 minutes earlier. But Marchese, considerably the second half, with Guatemala's Nelson Funes pulling away from Baarrett for fifth. Chylinski, actually dropped better than a minute behind Dave Marchese at 45 km after leading him more than 5 minutes earlier. But Marchese, walking very well in his first international, ran out of gas at that point, just as Chylinski managed to pull himself together and accelerate to the finish.

The U.S. team was managed by Frank ALongi (men) and Barbara Waddle (women), with Carl Schueler and Victoria Herazo serving as captains. The results:

**Women's 10 Km:**

**Men's 10 Km:**

**Men's 20 Km:**

**Men's 50 Km:**

**Women's 10 Km:**

**Men's 20 Km:**

**Men's 50 Km:**

The U.S. team was managed by Frank ALongi (men) and Barbara Waddle (women), with Carl Schueler and Victoria Herazo serving as captains. The results:

**Women's 10 Km:**

**Men's 10 Km:**

**Men's 20 Km:**

**Men's 50 Km:**
Shore AC (1st W40) 4:31:08 (10 finishers)


Whatley and New York junior Debbie Iden took the national timed track titles at the Whatley, Iden sweep 1 and 2 hour titles

Cambridge, Mass., Oct. 18 (from Steve Vaitones)--South Carolina's Ian Whatley and New York junior Debbie Iden took the national timed track titles at the MIT track today.

Whatley, less than 12 hours off a business trip flight from Korea, never looked back from the gun. He held record pace for nearly an hour, but jet lag and flight butt slowed him over the second hour. He beat second placer (and event co-director) Phil McGaw by nearly 5 Km with 25,092 meters.

Iden, the year's number two junior at 5 Km, also lead the full field from the start. She had up to a half lap on Michelle Daneau during the race, though Quebec's long-distance specialist cut that to less than a half straightaway by the final horn. Steady laps (weaving as wide as lane 4 to pass some of the crown on the track) brought Iden through 10 Km in 53:05 and the hour in 11,279, half a lap short of the junior record. Winning both junior and senior titles is not unprecedented, as Lynn Weik did the same back in 1987 with 11,240 meters, a then senior record.

Bob Keating repeated as masters 1 Hour winner with 12,773 meters, nearly a km up on Brian Savilonis, the duo leading the New England Walkers to their second masters team title of the month.

In the converging junior hour, Maine's Kevin Eastler got an early lead on Elliot Taub and was able to hold it the finish at 11,835 meters. Eastler's young Western Maine Walkers (all three only 15 years old) took the team title.

Masters women were led by Jeannette Smith, who covered 10,585 meters and led the Indiana Walkers to the team title.

The meet was conducted by the North Medford Club and the New England Walkers, and will return to Cambridge in 1993, as it was awarded for 2 years at the last convention. Results:

Herazo edges Standley for 5 Km title

New Haven, Conn., Oct. 9—Moving to the front at the gun, Virginia Herazo was never headed as she won the National 5 Km race in 22:39. But Sara Standley stayed right on her heels throughout and was still just a second back at the finish. Debbie Van Orden broke away from Canada's Pascale Grand to take third, with Grand just edging Linda Brubaker. Unfortunately, at this time we have only the first five finishers in what was a very impressive 44-woman field.

OCTOBER 1992

OTHER RESULTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Distance</th>
<th>Location</th>
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**Note:** The table above contains only a portion of the data extracted from the document.
HERE ARE SOME EVENTS FOR YOU PERAMBULATING PLEASURE

Sun. Nov. 8
5 Mile, Manalapan, NJ, 11:15 am (A)
5 Km, Ft. Lauderdale, FL, 7:30 am (Q)
5 Kms, Clarksburg, Cal. (Y)

Sat. Nov. 14
10 Km, Denver (H)

Sun. Nov. 15
5 Km, New York City, 10 am (G)
1 Hour, Monmouth, NJ, 10 am (A)
Half Marathon and 5 Km, Miami, 7:30 am (Q)
1 Hour, Marina, Cal. (Y)

Sat. Nov. 21
10 Mile, Clarksville, Tenn., 8:30 am (R)
MAC 40 Km, New York City, 10 am (X)
5 Km, Plainview, NY (S)
5 Km, Virginia Beach, New York City, 10 am (X)
8 Km, Naples, Florida, 7:30 am (Q)
1 Hour, Monterey Park, Cal., 8:30 am (B)

Sun. Nov. 22
Coney Island 10 Mile Handicap, 9 am (K)
1 Hour, Monmouth, NJ, 10 am (A)
Northeast 10 Km, Concord, Mass. (P)

Thu. Nov. 26
10 Km, Detroit (O)
4 Mile, Denver (H)
5 Km, Miami, 7:30 am (Q)
5 Mile, Freehold, NJ, 11 am (A)

Sat. Nov. 28
5 and 10 Km, Miami, 7:30 am (Q)

Sun. Nov. 29
5 Km, New York City, 10 am (G)
Gulf 35 Km, Houston and 10 Km (BB)

Tue. Dec. 1
5 Km, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, 6:30 pm (Q)

Sat. Dec. 5
5 Km, Miami, 8:15 am (Q)
5 and 10 Km, Miami, 6:30 pm (Q)

Sun. Dec. 6
Shore AC 1 Hour, Monmouth, NJ, 10 am (A)
5 Km, Miami, 6 pm (Q)
4.4 Mile, Denver, 9 am (H)

Sat. Dec. 12
5 Km, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, 8 am (P)
5 Km, Virginia Beach, 9:30 am (AA)

Sun. Dec. 13
Todd Scully 10 Km, Long Branch, NJ, 1:35 pm (A)
5 Km, New York City, 9 am (G)
2 Mile, Denver (H)

Tue. Dec. 15
5 Km, Folsom, Cal. (Y)

Sat. Dec. 19
2 Mile, New Orleans, 4 pm (M)
5 Km, Denver (H)

Sun. Dec. 20
1 Hour, Monmouth, NJ, 10 am (A)

Sun. Dec. 27
Polar Bear 10 Mile, Asbury Park, NJ, 10 am (A)

FROM TIME TO TIME WE GET INQUIRIES ABOUT WHAT SHOES TO USE FOR RACE WALKING FROM TIME TO TIME WE PUBLISH EITHER OUR OWN COMMENTS OR THOSE OF OTHERS. HERE IS "AN OPEN LETTER ABOUT WALKING SHOES" THAT APPEARED IN "STEP-BY-STEP," THE NEWSLETTER OF A RECENTLY ESTABLISHED WALKING CLUB IN KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN. THE LETTER WAS PENNED BY CHRIS COWELL: "I HAVE RECENTLY REVIEWED ALL THE MAJOR FOOTWEAR LINES FOR 1993. AND, ALTHOUGH THERE ARE MANY EXCITING NEW PRODUCTS BEING OFFERED AT MORE MODERATE PRICES ($70-$80) (ED. THIS CHEAPSKEAT, FOR ONE, DOESN'T CONSIDER THAT MODERATE, HAVING NEVER PAID THAT MUCH FOR SHOES. I'M STILL WAITING FOR THE ADIDAS ITALIA, WHICH RON LAIRD AND I AGREE WAS THE BEST WALKING SHOE WE EVER OWNED, TO COME BACK AT ITS MIDDLE '60S PRICE OF UNDER $10. DREAM ON, OH EDITOR.)"
Instead of the $125 and above models that get so much attention, there continues to be a lack of focus on shoes for fast walking. This problem shows from several points.

First, the "walking" market is viewed primarily as an older, casual mall walker who prefers all white "tennis" shoes and cares little about performance in terms of flexibility, roll through, pronation control, etc.

Second, most walking shoe designers don't fast walk, they mostly are designing cross training, tennis, and basketball shoes, simply don't pay much attention to performance needs of walking fast.

Third, although the overall fitness walking population is much larger, than the running population, most companies manufacture one or two styles of walking shoes compared to 8 to 12 styles of running shoes. Companies think most walkers want the same basic style of shoe and don't need to differentiate for different biomechanics like running shoes. They also don't think walkers will spend as much on shoes as runners.

Lastly, companies think walkers will not shop at specialty stores where technology and biomechanics are taken seriously, but would most likely purchase shoes at a Hudson's or traditional shoe store where cosmetics are the first priority.

Obviously, as a retailer who takes walking seriously and as a participant (currently with a bad back), I am frustrated at my industry. I think some letters from actual customers/wearers would help stimulate more action from some companies. The following is a list of manufacturers and their addresses. Please pursue this if you are interested in better shoes for your feet! Avia, 16160 S.W. Overland Park Rd., Portland, OR 97224; Brooks, Wolverine Worldwide, Rockford, MI 49351; Asics, 10540 Talbert Dr. West Bldg., Fountain Valley, CA 92708; Mizuno, 577 Airport Blvd., Suite 800, Burlingame, CA 94010; New Balance, 38 Everett St., Boston, MA 02134; Nike, One Bowerman Drive, Beaverton, OR 97005; Reebok, 100 Technology Center Drive, Stoughton, MA 02072.

FROM HEEL TO TOE

Probably a record number of results for an October issue, with many races of import, so there isn't room for a lot else this month... Bob Tucker, coordinator of the Canadian Junior Racewalk program, was selected as the winner of Canada's Excellence in Coaching Award in the leadership category. Tucker, from Brockville, Ontario, hosts and directs the annual fall Junior U.S. vs Canada dual match. He is on the Athletics Canada Racewalk Executive Committee, a National Staff Coach, certified judge, advanced coach, and active in the Canadian Legion track and field program. An individual well deserving of the award.

An open letter to the U.S. racewalking community:

The December TAC convention will elect the chairperson for the TAC Mens' and Somens' Racewalk Committee. While our current chair has served diligently and in good faith, we still face the same fundamental problems that have plagued us for years: a. Information is not easily accessible, phone calls are not returned promptly (limited volunteer time is understandable so let's find a new way to disseminate information). b. We still lack a national program to provide coaching and judging education to local associations. c. We continue to lose good young talent at high
10 Years Ago (From the Oct. 1982 ORW)—Ray Sharp survived a strong finish by Tom Edwards to win the National 40 Km in Monmouth, N.J. Ray’s 3:27:31 left him 46 seconds ahead of Edwards, who gained nearly 5 minutes in the final 10 Km. Randy Mimm was another 3 1/2 minutes back in third, well ahead of Mike Morris.

Ernesto Canto was at easy winner of the Alongi Memorial 20 Km in 1:29:11... Alan Price won the Colombia 100-miler for the fifth consecutive year. Mexican teammate Felix Gomez second in 1:27:23. Tim Lewis edged Ray Sharp for third in 1:29:11... Alan Price won the Colombia 100-miler for the fifth consecutive year. Mexican teammate Felix Gomez second in 1:27:23. Tim Lewis edged Ray Sharp for third in 1:29:11... Alan Price won the Colombia 100-miler for the fifth consecutive year. Mexican teammate Felix Gomez second in 1:27:23.


A letter from long-time subscriber, contributor to the sport, and current IAAF Racewalk Chairman, Bob Bowman

I’d like to respond to the various letters printed in the September ORW regarding the Olympic walks TV coverage and the Olympic Trials. My first comments are in response to Stan Quirin’s concerns about the TV coverage and judging system. Both Marty Liquori and Frank Shorter have been good friends of racewalking over the years although I’m not surprised they weren’t familiar with the rules. As to rules (IAAF Rule 191), a warning is given when a competitor is “in danger of failing to comply with the definition of race walking.” Whereas, a disqualification occurs when a competitor “fails to comply with the definition of race walking.” These are two independent calls. And according to Rule 191(a), “When in the opinion of three judges’ this failure to comply exists, then the competitor shall be disqualified.” So before this point there is no disqualification. So Stan’s understanding of Rule 191 is incorrect. Nothing is called a disqualification until three judges agree. It is exactly as he further states: three strikes and you’re out. Where’s the confusion.

As to television coverage. This is always a problem that judging can only be done by the human eye as Rule 191 points out. This does not mean the governing bodies (IAAF and TAC) are not interested in using technology if it is practical and reliable, but currently it is not. People suggesting it even though it is almost impossible to implement with any degree of fairness. Also you want the judging system used in major international also to be used at the local level. The Barcelona situation was especially frustrating because ironically the TV cameras (three of them on motorcycles) were escorting the lead walkers during the 50 Km and thus blocking the view of the judges. This went on for some time until I finally got them to back off, but even then they kept interfering. This is usually not a problem, but the technical aspects of the Olympics left a lot to be desired (LA and Seoul were much better.) By the way, I was the Chief Judge in the 50. Of course Mr. Liquori and Shorter were unaware of this problem. Nevertheless, despite these difficulties, we were able to sort out the race with seven eventually DQ’d.

The IAAF walking Committee in its review of the Barcelona events is looking at the following recommendations to help improve the sport:

a. Enforcement of proper technique rules while walkers pass by sponging and refreshment stations. This continues to be a problem.
b. Enforcement of rules as walkers round the turn-around points and corners of the course. This has been a continuing problem also.
c. Try to avoid late disqualifications, especially after such an important race. On these occasions when it is unavoidable, the race walking officials should alert all involved, including the press of this possibility.
d. In conjunction with c. above, it is felt that often unfair criticism by television and other media is a result of a lack of understanding of the rules of race walking and that we must do more to educate them. One good suggestion was the preparation of information materials beforehand so there is no confusion.

e. Noting the judging management problems associated with the women’s 10 Km event, it was suggested we explore increasing the distance to 20 Km.

It is not a perfect system, but it is the best and the fairest we have, and it is quite workable. But you certainly need experienced judges. To suggest using inexperienced judges would result in great inconsistency and many protests. By the way, there were over 50 protests lodged in the other T&F events. Perhaps you saw the men’s 10 Km when the IAAF Technical Delegate tried to tackle the funner who was illegally pacing his teammate, or the baton fight that broke out during a heat of the men’s 4x400 relay. And how about the many drug violations and the claims by Gwen Torrence that she was beaten by drug-enhanced athletes, or the three medalists in the men’s shot put who just came off drug suspensions. I guess we could eliminate these events, too. I’m proud to say there were no protests in the three walks and no positives for drugs. So I don’t agree with Stan that “our sport became a joke” or that it should be eliminated because two ex-athletes didn’t understand the event or the rules. And by the way, the Triplecast was only seen by a few hundred thousand and not millions or billions.

Regarding Ian Whatley’s comments on the Olympic Trials situation, I think TAC Rule 150.4(c) is adequate. It states, “The road walking events shall be so arranged as to ensure that the walkers finish in daylight.” The organizers were clearly in violation of this Rule. The proper amount of illumination by lighting is not usually available except in the stadium.

Jim Hanley, as always, offered some appropriate and insightful comments regarding the Olympic Walks/TV coverage. Jim really nailed the problem with the Triplecast by the following analysis: “To protect the athlete, it now takes three judges to independently disqualify the walker. The DQ calls are posted on a board, and when an athlete gets three marks he is out. The tradeoff is that it takes a while for the calls to be collected and recorded on the chart, so athletes in violation of the rules are not immediately disqualified. On occasion, they may even get the bad news after they have finished the race People ignorant of this, including the Triplecast announcers, conclude that athletes are cheating and getting away with it.” That’s why we have to be more proactive in educating the TV and other media people as to the rules. Otherwise, you get confused people trying to explain the sport to more confused people and obviously the sport suffers.

By the way, Jack Korzenowski was by far worse than Perlov and Mercenaro. He had tucked himself behind these two and forgot about contact. He was almost jogging. An easy human eye call. Perlov and Mercenaro both looked pretty solid in the latter stages. Neither had a DQ call.

I’ll skip commenting on any suggestions to eliminate the contact rule. This has been covered in the past. This is like eliminating banks to prevent bank robberies. In short, you eliminate the contact rule and you eliminate the sport.

Finally, as to the proposals that appeared in the May 1992 Issue of the British Race Walking Record and listed in the last issue of the ORW, they were not made by Peter Marlow. That was an error by the Record. These were proposals sent to Peter by various people (federations) to be considered by the IAAF Walking Committee. Most of them were rejected for various reasons.

Bob Bowman
Chairman, IAAF Walking Committee